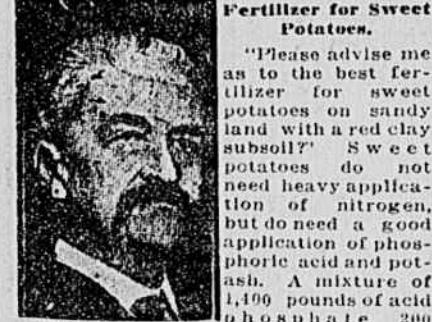


WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY.

Thursday, February 5, 1914.



W. F. Massey, pounds of cottonseed meal, and 400 pounds of sulphate of potash will make a ton of good sweet potato fertilizer if used at rate of 500 pounds an acre in the furrows under the beds.

Fertilizer for Sweet Potatoes.

"Please advise me as to the best fertilizer for sweet potatoes on sandy land with a red clay subsoil? Sweet potatoes do not need heavy application of nitrogen, but do need a good application of phosphoric acid and potash. A mixture of 1,000 pounds of acid phosphate, 200 pounds of cottonseed meal, and 400 pounds of sulphate of potash will make a ton of good sweet potato fertilizer if used at rate of 500 pounds an acre in the furrows under the beds.

Planting Fruit in Tidewater Section.

"I read with great interest what you wrote some months ago in regard to the State. But labor conditions are very bad, indeed. I have some land on the south side of the lower Pamunkey, over-land, and it seems to me that this land could be made profitable for growing peaches and other fruit. I would like to have your opinion in regard to such a planting? There is no doubt but that the section south of the mouth of the Pamunkey can be made to grow fruit profitably. But the same labor troubles would beset you in such an enterprise. To make an orchard profitable the stumps should be gotten out, either by pulling them, or blowing them out with dynamite, and a peach orchard needs a regular cultivation every year to July at least, and with the stumps out of the way, you can grow potatoes and other growing vegetable crops on the land. But if you are planting fruit, you will overcome the labor problem, I fear that you will be disappointed, for there is nothing that demands better and more regular attention than a peach orchard, both in the cultivation, and in the picking, spring and fall, and it demands a better class of labor than ordinary farming. The labor naturally drifts to Richmond from that section, and the best way to make the land profitable, it seems to me, would be to get it into grass, and maintain the sod by annual top dressing and pasture cattle that you can pick up in Richmond and sell in the fall. One man can take care of quite a large number of grazing stock. And by keeping the grass good by annual top dressing of bone meal you can graze more and more cattle every year, and in the spring you can sell the new, it ought to be easy to get it in grass and wait for the stumps to decay.

Amkor goats would be useful on such land to keep down the sprouts. Such a course would overcome the labor difficulty better than planting fruit trees, which would demand good labor and plenty of it.

Improving a North Carolina Farm.

New York City: "I have a place in the upper section of Piedmont, N. C., of about 2,000 acres. Land is gently rolling, well watered, and mainly red soil, and chocolate soil. Will you suggest what you consider the best fertilizer for corn? I am prepared to buy the ingredients and mix them on the farm. Please state whether the fertilizer should be applied in the furrow or broadcast. I am not yet planting much corn, because the land is thin, and I have not had time to get it into condition where large crops will pay. My crop will be about fifty to sixty acres in corn. Also suggest the best fertilizer for peas. I shall sow about 150 acres of these, and nearly all of them will be turned under for the benefit of the land and the succeeding crop. I have been using a brand that cost me \$16 a ton, delivered at my place. Kindly suggest the probable cost of the corn fertilizer. If you have read what I have been writing in these columns, you will find that I have uniformly given the opinion that it does not pay to depend on the commercial fertilizers in which there is a due percentage of ammonia for growing corn. In the first start in the improvement of thin land it may be wise to use some fertilizer on the corn, and to use half in the furrows and half broadcast, for corn roots run far and wide across the rows. In the section named I believe that you can profitably make cotton out of your crop, and also plant a rotation of crops, growing peas not only in a field by themselves, but sowing them always among the corn at last working for it has been found that peas in the corn not only do not do any harm, but that they increase the corn crop, and make a fine preparation for the crop of oats or wheat that should follow. As a complete fertilizer, to turn under for it, a mixture of 1,200 pounds of acid phosphate, 600 pounds of cottonseed meal and 200 pounds of sulphate of potash will make a fairly good fertilizer. In fact, on your red land I am not sure that the potash will be needed except in the start, for if you farm that land right, and get organic decay in it, you can depend on it once in six years, you can get the abundant store of insoluble potash that the soil contains. But in its present state it will pay to use the potash. Then by all means use a complete rotation of crops that will give you a winter cover every winter of crimson clover, for you must rely on cowpeas and crimson clover mainly for the rapid increase of the humus or organic decay in the soil.

Practicing a good rotation of crops, you will finally need to buy only acid phosphate, for by growing and feeding the peas and turning under the clover, and saving and returning to the land all the manure made, and as fast as it is made, you can get all the nitrogen needed, and, as I have said, when you time and get organic decay into the soil you can release the inexhaustible store of potash that that land contains. For peas use 300 pounds an acre of acid phosphate and twenty-five pounds of muriate of potash, and after a few rounds of a good rotation, only the acid phosphate. Now, the fertilizer I have mentioned for corn, if used at rate of 400 pounds of acid phosphate, will doubtless increase the corn crop very considerably, but to make corn cheaply you should always have a good of crimson clover on the land in winter, and during the winter get on this all the manure made, and then you can afford to apply acid phosphate liberally on corn. But you should have a rotation something like the following: corn with peas among it, corn cut and shocked and the peas disked down and followed by wheat or winter oats, and

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these by peas for hay, and the peas by crimson clover, and this turned under for cotton, and acid phosphate used heavily on the cotton and the clover sown again among the cotton and the mature gotten out on it in winter and turned for corn again and the rotation repeated. Have a field set apart as a permanent pasture and get it in good grass and maintain the grass by annual top dressing of bone meal and keep all weeds mown off, and you will not be obliged to pasture your arable land. The fertilizer mixture suggested can be made for \$20 a ton.

Varieties of Tomatoes.

"Have you found any tomato earlier than the Bonny Best or as early? The Earliana grows too rough here, but the Bonny Best is only a few days later than the Earliana, but much better. Which kind of pickling cucumber have you found best? What is the best way to grow them for fall pickling? I have found the Langdon strain of Earliana earlier by a week than the Bonny Best, and also smooth. You have probably been growing the old strain of Earliana. Bonny Best is a better tomato, but does not give an early crop all at once like the Earliana. The best cucumber for late planting for pickles is the Davis Perfect. It is larger than the White Spine, but, of course, for pickles you will cut any of them when about two or three inches long. The old Long Green is good, but I prefer the Davis Perfect. The Bonny Best is a good early tomato, but to keep up a supply you should sow some of the larger and later sorts like Success, Greater Baltimore and Brimmer. Pickling cucumbers in well manured hills four feet by five. Plant in July for pickles.

Sowing Grass in Spring.

"Can I successfully sow grass and clover seed in spring? I have been in February of March, and have found that oats are not a good crop to seed with. I have heard the same thing repeated year after year, and yet I have had as good stands of grass and clover sown with spring oats as I ever had in any other way. When I was managing a large stock farm and growing no grain to sell, but everything to feed, I grew winter oats, and sown grass and clover in the spring, and in our climate these do better than the northern spring oats, and, sowing no fall grain, I was obliged to seed down with the oats, and I never made a failure in doing so. With freshly prepared land it is reasonable to suppose that the grass and clover will grow off better than when sown in spring on fall grain. If I had been growing wheat, I would have sown my grass seed in the fall. But I had a good, or better, grass than any of my neighbors who sowed with wheat in the fall. The notion that oats are not a good nurse crop for grass doubtless came from the North, where spring conditions differ from ours. Sow plenty of seed and you will find it all right to sow on oats in spring. The main reason for most of the failures is lack of sufficient seed. It pays better to sow a peck of Red Clover seed and get a perfect stand than to sow ten pounds or less and get a thin stand.

Reinforcing Manure.

"I asked the editor of a farm paper if it would not be a good thing to mix plaster with pulverized phosphate rock with manure, and he replied that while this might do some good, the best of all things to mix with the manure is land plaster. I would like to have your opinion on this matter. I have already stated my opinion in regard to the proper reinforcement of manure, but it will do no harm to repeat it here. Plaster, the sulphate of lime, does not have a good effect when mixed with the manure, in preventing the loss of ammonia. But it adds nothing of special value to the manure, and, hence, does not reinforce it and make it more effective as a crop producer. The Ohio Station has done the most careful work in this regard. It was found there that as little as forty pounds of the pulverized rock or of acid phosphate added to a ton of manure did very greatly increase the efficiency of the manure when compared with manure without this treatment; in fact, nearly trebled the crop.

A Fertilizer Mixture.

"I wish you would tell me what you think of the following mixture for corn. It has done well for me, and I have made it at a cost of \$15.50 per ton, cash: Six hundred pounds of cottonseed meal, 200 pounds of dried blood, 400 pounds of land plaster, 1,000 pounds of acid phosphate, to make a ton. I expect to use a large amount the coming season and would be glad to have your opinion? Your mixture will run about 2 per cent nitrogen, 7 per cent phosphoric acid and 3 per cent potash. It is a fairly good combination, but if you will use it on corn and leave out a small piece of similar land and use fertilizer on it, you can ascertain as I have what the cost of the increased crop has been; and I think that you will find, as I have found, that it does not pay to depend on a complete fertilizer mixture for corn. What is needed is a systematic rotation of crops that will put a crimson clover crop on the land to turn under for corn, and on this to spread all the manure made on the farm as fast as it is made and turn all under for the corn. Then it will pay to use acid phosphate liberally, and on sandy land some potash. But it does not pay to buy nitrogen for corn, when you can get it abundantly by growing and using cowpeas and crimson clover.

Making Concrete.

"I wish to make a concrete foundation for barn and stables. We have no rock nor gravel here. Can I make the walls of cement and sand alone? You might make a fairly good wall of cement alone, but it would be more expensive and weaker than concrete. There are other things that can be used besides rock. If you can get old bricks, they can be broken up, and will answer as well as rock. Or you can get cinders from coal ashes, that will answer the purpose, and you can get some oyster shells, and they will answer a very good purpose in making concrete. Some of these materials will surely be available.

REPUBLIC OF PERU AGAIN IN THROES OF REVOLUTION

(Continued from First Page.)

ed a storm of protest. His contention that the island was admirably adapted for use as part of the harbor defenses as well as for other purposes, was contested, but the majority of Congress had been pledged to the irrigation of the coastal districts, which are almost a synonym for aridity the world over. The millions set aside for the island nature could be better used for this, they argued. Bingham, however, calmly engaged engineers and began preliminary work on the connection.

Sought More Power.

The climax came when it was generally rumored that the President was secretly backing a move to overthrow the existing Congress, elect a new Assembly, or Constitutional, as it is known in Peru, and force certain changes to the Constitution that would give him the power he lacked. This brought into the arena Dr. Augusto Durand, a wealthy, cultured, high educated patriot. Durand had figured most prominently in the election of the three Presidents previous to Bingham, and had added the latter not a little. The Constitution was almost a fetish to this young Peruvian, who immediately left his cozy plantation, the largest in the country, his pretty wife and two children, and journeyed to Lima. It is generally believed that he threatened Bingham with his face with revolution if the proposal to change the Constitution was carried out. He this as it may, Durand left the capital hastily to appear again at the palace in the early hours of today, with an army at his heels. It is deemed most probable that Durand will be the next President. The popular belief is that his patriotism is of the purest sort, and that his leadership in this affair was from no ulterior motive.

GLASS IS DENIED SENATE SEAT BY VOTE OF 32 TO 31

(Continued from First Page.)

of the State to save \$100,000 or some large sum, which would be spent by a special election for Senator. Senator Lee had been preceded immediately by Senator Walsh, who closed the debate on the behalf of those opposed to seating Mr. Glass. He declared Senators who voted to seat Mr. Lee could not vote consistently to seat Mr. Glass, and urged that the people of the State of Alabama were entitled to go to the polls to determine who should represent them in the Senate. Senator Bankhead, who led the fight for Mr. Glass, closed the debate for the minority in an eloquent plea to the Senate to act upon common sense and not to deprive a State of a Senator. Mr. Glass, who sat on the floor throughout the day, was surrounded by Senators after the result had been announced, those who voted against him joining with his supporters in expressing their regret. At no time was any personal objection suggested, the opposition maintaining that Governor O'Neal should have called a special senatorial election to fill the vacancy existing, and that the seventeenth amendment precluded his right to make the appointment.

NINE SMALLPOX CASES ARE FOUND

All Patients, Members of One Colored Family, Sent to Hospital.

Nine new cases of smallpox, all colored and in South Richmond, were reported to the Health Department yesterday, and, after a short investigation by Dr. Summers, all were sent to the Smallpox Hospital, and several suspected cases were placed under surveillance. Eighteen patients suffering with the disease are now being cared for in the Smallpox Hospital. The cases reported yesterday are members of one family, and live at 2314 Cambridge Street, in the county line in South Richmond. They are Thomas, Joseph, Anna, William Henry, Georgia May, George, Lief and Essie, all of the Cambridge family, and Cella Roberts, the grandmother. The disease was contracted by eight of the family by contact with Essie Roberts, who visited Greenville County during the Christmas holidays. She returned January 3, and ten days later became ill. A doctor was not called, and on January 17 eruptions appeared, and since then the others of the family have become ill. Two of the girls were house servants in South Richmond. Dr. E. C. Levy, chief health officer, immediately proceeded with the work of vaccinating all those who had come in contact with the Cambridge family. He advises all others who may have come in contact with the sufferers to be vaccinated. Dr. Levy emphasizes the fact that vaccination is a sure and safe preventive, and warns all to take the precaution which will insure them against contracting the disease.

Rev. W. O. Beasley Accepts Call to Stockton Street Baptist Church.

After being pastorless for nearly six months, Stockton Street Baptist Church has received an acceptance of a call extended to Rev. W. O. Beasley, of Hampden-Sydney College. In a letter to the pulpit committee of the church, Mr. Beasley stated that he appreciated the honor offered him, and was glad to be vaccinated. He will arrive within the next thirty days, and will make his home in the South Richmond parsonage. Mr. Beasley teaches moral philosophy at Hampden-Sydney, where he is very popular with the students. He has served as a minister in several churches, and his pastorates have always been successful. He is said to be a fluent and forceful speaker. He has preached several times before the congregation of the church. The church has been without a pastor since the resignation of Rev. C. W. McElroy last summer. Mr. McElroy was forced to give up the position on account of ill health. Dr. Beasley will substitute pastors will fill the pulpit until the arrival of Mr. Beasley.

Entertainers at Cards.

Miss Janie Robertson entertained at cards on Tuesday night at her home in Forest Hill in honor of Miss Anna Page Williams, of Greensboro, N. C., who is the guest of Miss Eliza Broadnax Ingram. Miss Virginia Robertson won the first prize, while Overton Dennis captured the men's prize. Those playing were: Misses Anna Page Williams, Imogene Gregory, Eleanor Gary, Virginia Robertson, Eliza B. Ingram, Lyle Gary, Thelma Watt, Sadie Yerby, De-Craffreine Robertson, Ellen Smith, Margaret Gary, Janie Robertson and Mrs. Sidney Smith. Messrs. Francis French, Littlepage Ingram, Overton

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NEWS OF SOUTH RICHMOND

CHURCH SECURES PASTOR

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Our buyer has just returned from the largest tire manufacturing centre in the world. We have contracted for our three (3) stores for tires amounting to \$200,000, and by the large purchase are able to save our Virginia patrons, and they are legion, 15 to 30 per cent on their tires and tubes. We can save you double that on other articles. A visit to our greatly enlarged stores will pay you.

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Field and Grass Seeds

N. R. Savage & Son, Richmond, Va.

Richmond, died yesterday morning at 5:30 o'clock at his home, 916 Bainbridge Street.

The body will be taken to Raleigh, N. C., where the funeral will be held at 4:25 o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Sykes is survived by his wife and one son, William Sykes, who is an engineer on the Atlantic Coast Line Railway.

Pickpockets Get Ninety Days.

Raymond Ellis and W. L. Slaughter, young white men, were sentenced to ninety days on the roads by Justice Maurice yesterday in Police Court, Part II, on charges of stealing \$14 from Frank Blanton, their companion. The pickpockets were fined while he was asleep on the Southern Railway. On another charge of disorderly conduct, Ellis, Slaughter and Blanton, with Kinney Ellis and Raymond Clements, were fined \$10 each.

Burns Are Serious.

Wirt Crawford, four-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Crawford, of 1108 Bainbridge Street, was reported to be dangerously ill yesterday from burns on his back. The boy's clothing caught fire on Monday morning while he was playing with a lighted candle.

General News Notes.

Mrs. Howard M. Hoge, State President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, will deliver an address for behalf of temperance at a union meeting tonight at 8 o'clock in Central Methodist Church. A meeting of the South Richmond and Chesterfield Business Men's Association will be held to-morrow night at 8:20 o'clock in Fraternal Hall. Important business will be transacted. Justice H. A. Maurice will begin work early this month on the rebuilding of his house at Eleventh and Bainbridge Streets, which was recently destroyed by fire. Contracts for the work were awarded to several builders last week. After being renovated and framework built, the walls of the old structure will be left standing. NO "STAYING IN RECESS" BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER. Despite the gloomy forecast of Mr. Groundhog when he scampered from

To Equip Armory.

The Council Finance Committee yesterday afternoon passed a resolution to appropriate \$500 for the equipment and completion of the new First State Armory. There were no other matters up before the committee.

Cylinder Keys

FOR Yale, Corbin and Sargent Locks AND ALL OTHER MAKES. 1234567890 HOUSE AND AUTO NUMBERS, All sizes, in Bronze, Aluminum, etc. A. B. CLARKE & SON HARDWARE CO., 1215 East Main Street.